1. Reread pages 290-293 starting with “Something was wrong” and ending with Atticus saying “Nobody has much chance…” What happens to Atticus? How does the town react? How does Atticus react? How do the kids feel about it? What is Atticus’ explanation for why he reacted the way he did? What does that say/prove about Atticus’ character? Think back to the first mob at the Finch house before the trial and what the future holds. Predict whether Link Deas’ original thought will come true and explain what you think it is.
2. Reread pages 295-298. Make a list of aspects of the trial Jem didn’t know before. How does he accept and respond to this new information? Do you think this makes Jem feel better or worse about the outcome of the trial? Explain why.
3. Reread 299-304. How does Scout’s reaction show she’s like Atticus in how she looks at other people? How does Aunt Alexandra’s reaction show she still has Maycomb’s “usual disease”? What does Aunt Alexandra shockingly say to Scout and how does she react? How are the dynamics of Scout and Jem’s relationship changing in a good way? (Instead of him telling her to go away and acting like he knows better, how is he talking to Scout now?)
4. Reread pages 309-312 starting with “sin and squalor….” at the bottom and ending with “I could not see Mrs. Farrow.” Scout doesn’t really understand what Mrs. Merriweather is talking about, but exactly what is she saying throughout her long tirade? How is Mrs. Merriweather showing she’s a hypocrite, claiming to be a Christian but then reacting to the black community in that way?
5. Reread pages 314-318 starting with Atticus’ arrival at the house. Why is he home? What has happened? What is Aunt Alexandra’s reaction? How does Miss Maudie react and what does that teach both Alexandra and Scout? What happens when these women rejoin the luncheon? How does this event transform the relationship between Alexandra and Scout? How can we tell?